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IMPORTANT NOTICE TELECOPY/FACSIMILE COVER LETTER

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TO: U.S. Patent and Trademark Office
Examiner: Brian J. Sines
Art Unit: 1743

DATE: February 25, 2005

FROM: Barry M. Shuman/Wei-Ning Yang

TIME:

TOTAL NO. OF PAGES, INCLUDING COVER: 9

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MESSAGE:

RE: U.S. Patent Application Serial No.: 09/915,865; Attorney Ref: 81841.0155

I hereby certify that the following documents:

- Amendment
- Amendment Transmittal Letter

are being facsimile transmitted to the Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, for filing in the above application.

February 25, 2005

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Diane Zynn

TELECOPY/FAX NUMBER: 703-872-9306 - Art Unit 1743

CLIENT NUMBER: 81841.0155

ATTORNEY BILLING NUMBER: 6085

CONFIRMATION NUMBER: 703-305-0401 (please return fax to Diane Zynn)

FORM PTO-1083

Patent Application No. 09/915,865
Attorney Docket No. 81841.0155 (2009-174)

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of:

Richard R. Sharpe, Jr. et al.

Serial No: 09/915,865

Filed: July 26, 2001

For: METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR OBJECT-ORIENTED REAL-TIME MECHANICAL CONTROL OF AUTOMATED CHEMISTRY INSTRUMENTS

Art Unit: 1743

Examiner: Brian J. Sines

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Diane Zynn

Name

Signature

02/25/2005

Date

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Commissioner for Patents

P.O. Box 1450

Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

Transmitted herewith is an amendment in the above-identified application.

☒ No additional fee is required.

The fee has been calculated as shown below:

	(Col. 1) CLAIMS REMAINING AFTER AMENDMENT		(Col. 2) HIGHEST NUMBER PREVIOUSLY PAID FOR	(Col. 3) PRESENT EXTRA*	LG/SM \$ ENTITY FEE	ADD'L FEE DUE
TOTAL CLAIMS FEE	8	-	26	**	0	LG=\$50 SM=\$25 \$ 0
INDEPENDENT CLAIMS FEE	1	-	4	***	0	LG=\$200 SM=\$100 \$ 0
FIRST PRESENTATION OF MULTIPLE DEPENDENT CLAIMS					LARGE ENTITY FEE = \$360 SMALL ENTITY FEE = \$180	\$ 0
ADDITIONAL SIZE FEE (IF ANY) (TOTAL PAGES OF SPEC AND DRAWINGS TOGETHER)					\$250 FOR EACH ADDITIONAL 50 SHEETS	\$ 0
Independent Claims: 1					TOTAL	\$ 0

* If the entry in Col. 1 is less than the entry in Col. 2, write "0" in Col. 3.

** If the "Highest Number Previously Paid For" IN THIS SPACE is less than 20, write "20" in this space.

*** If the "Highest Number Previously Paid For" IN THIS SPACE is less than 3, write "3" in this space. The "Highest Number Previously Paid For" (Total or Independent) is the highest number found from the equivalent box on Col. 1 of a prior amendment or the number of claims originally filed.

☐ A check in the amount of \$ 0 to cover the additional claims fee is enclosed. A copy of this sheet is enclosed.

☐ A check in the amount of \$ 0 to cover the extension fee is enclosed. A copy of this sheet is enclosed.

☒ The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any deficiencies of fees associated with this communication or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 50-1314. A copy of this sheet is enclosed.

☒ Any filing fees under 37 C.F.R. § 1.16 for the presentation of extra claims

☒ Any patent application processing fees under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17

Respectfully submitted,

HOGAN & HARTSON L.L.P.

By: Barry M. Shuman

Wei-Ning Yang (Contact Person)

Registration No. 38,690

Attorney for Applicant(s)

Barry M. Shuman

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Appl. No. 09/915,865

Attorney Docket No. 81841.0155 (2009-174)

Amdt. Dated February 25, 2005

Customer No. 26021

Reply to Final Office Action of November 30, 2004

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of:

Richard R. Sharpe, Jr. et al.

Serial No: 09/915,865

Filed: July 26, 2001

For: METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR
OBJECT-ORIENTED REAL-TIME
MECHANICAL CONTROL OF
AUTOMATED CHEMISTRY
INSTRUMENTS

Confirmation No.: 7692

Art Unit: 1743

Examiner: Brian J. Sines

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P.O. Box 1450
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Diane Zynn

Name

Signature *Diane Zynn* 02/25/2005

Date

AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.116

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Commissioner for Patents

P.O. Box 1450

Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

In response to the Final Office Action dated November 30, 2004, please
amend the above-referenced application as follows:

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on
page 2 of this paper.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 4 of this paper.